

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00  
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 /057 W  
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FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3671  
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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FOR DALLEY

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SHUM  
SUBJECT: WORLD CONFERENCE TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL  
DISCRIMINATION, GENEVA, AUGUST 14-25, 1978 - MEETING WITH  
BANGLADESH DELEGATION

1. IN A MEETING, WHICH THEY REQUESTED WITH AMBASSADOR  
VANDEN HEUVEL, THE CHARGE OF THE BANGLADESH MISSION  
(SABER REZA KARIM) AND HIS ECONOMIC MINISTER (MOTAH  
HOSSAIN) EXPLAINED WHY THEIR DEL TO THE SUBJECT CONFERENCE  
HAD VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE DECLARATION AND PLAN OF ACTION  
OF THE SESSION. ACCORDING TO KARIM, BANGLADESH  
HAD WORKED TO CHANGE THE OBJECTIONABLE PASSAGES IN PARAS  
18 AND 19 OF THE DRAFT DECLARATION BUT THE ATMOSPHERE  
AT THE CONFERENCE WAS TOO TENSE FOR ANY KIND OF FRUITFUL  
NEGOTIATIONS. SAG'S PURSUIT OF SWAPO FREEDOM FIGHTERS  
INTO ZAMBIA ONLY SERVED TO EXACERBATE HOSTILE FEELINGS.

2. KARIM SAID THAT HIS DEL COULD NOT SINGLY OPPOSE THE  
AFRICAN/ASIAN GROUP AND FELT COMPELLED TO VOTE WITH THE  
NON-ALIGNED EVEN THOUGH THEY OPPOSED DECLARATION  
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LANGUAGE. KARIM WENT ON TO SAY THAT A BAD ATMOSPHERE  
EXISTS IN THE WORLD TODAY WHERE EVEN THE MOST INSIGNIFI-  
CANT INCIDENT CAUSES VIOLENT REACTIONS. IT APPEARS THAT  
HE WAS REFERRING TO THE MIDDLE EAST SITUATION. HE  
RELATED AN INCIDENT IN WHICH A LEBANESE MADE A LOAN TO  
A SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTION AND THE REACTION BY ARABS  
WAS BLOWN-UP OUT OF PROPORTION.

3. COMMENT: SEVERAL PARTICIPANTS OF THE WORLD CONFERENCE  
HAVE EXPRESSED THE OPINION THAT THE ATMOSPHERE AT THE  
CONFERENCE OR IN THE UN GENERALLY IS HOSTILE AND NEGATIVE.  
USUALLY, THE ARABS ARE SINGLED OUT AS THE CAUSE OF THIS  
UNFAVORABLE CLIMATE. END COMMENT. VANDEN HEUVEL

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, MEETING DELEGATIONS, MEETINGS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 31 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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